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OPENING OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TURKMEN SSR, 1951

The opening day of the Academy of Sciences Turkmen SSR, the 13th Academy of Sciences in our country, will go down in the history of the Turkmen people as a day of triumph for the growing and quickly-strengthening science of Soviet Turkmenistan.

Participating in the celebration on this occasion were delegations from every corner of the USSR. Ashkhabad also saw the arrival of a special committee of the Academy of Sciences USSR, namely, Academicians V. P. Nikitin and D. V. Nalivkin; Corresponding Members E. Ye. Bertels, I. P. Gerasimov and A. Yu. Yakubovskiy; and Prof B. F. Bonchkovskiy.

The celebration meeting was opened by C. B. Babayev, a representative of the Council of Ministers Turkmen SSR, who spoke on science and culture in Turkmenistan.

Representatives of Soviet and social organizations, higher educational institutions of Turkmenistan, and numerous guests from other republics attended the first general meeting, which took place in the Palace of Culture and Arts in Ashkhabad.

The following were unanimously chosen honorary members of the academy: Academicians A. N. Nesmeyanov, D. V. Nalivkin, B. P. Nikitin, and B. D. Grekov, and E. Ye. Bertels, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences USSR.

P. A. Azimov, Active Member of the Academy of Sciences Turkmen SSR, nominated for president of the academy T. B. Berdyev -- a scientist who has made great contributions to pedagogical science in the republic, doing much for the realization of universal 7-year school education in Turkmenistan. Academician D. V. Nalivkin warmly supported Candidate T. B. Berdyev. By a secret ballot of the general meeting, T. B. Berdyev was unanimously chosen president. Vice-presidents chosen were M. P. Petrov and O. M. Dzhumayev.

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The first session of the academy was held within 2 days. At the plenary meeting of the session, reports were heard on the following: problems of linguistics in the republic in the light of the works of I. V. Stalin on linguistics; results of the work of the Southern Turkmenistan Complex Archaeological Expedition; results of the geological study of Turkmenistan; and also a number of reports on the transformation of nature and the struggle against saline soils.

In his address, D. V. Nalivkin pointed out that in 1940, at the opening of the Turkmen Affiliate of the Academy of Sciences USSR, there was a total of 13 holders of academic degrees, but there was not one Turkmen among them. Now in Turkmenistan, there are 11 Turkmen Doctors of Science and 35 Turkmen Candidates of Science.

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